

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE
FOR YOUR
DIVERSION**

OPERATOR: _____ DATE: _____

TAX MAP KEY OF PRACTICE LOCATION: _____

NRCS OFFICE: _____ PHONE: _____

A properly operated and maintained diversion is an asset to your farm. This diversion was designed and installed to safely convey runoff from the drainage area. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

Here are recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

OPERATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Notify NRCS of holes, settlement or cracks in the earthen sections.
- Avoid excessive travel on any portion of the system that will harm or destroy the vegetative cover.
- Keep machinery away from steep sloped ridges. Keep equipment operators informed of all potential hazards

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Immediately inspect the diversion after each significant storm when water flows in the diversion.
- Periodically remove the soil that is deposited in the channel and restore to the original dimension.
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Immediately remove any obstructions or blockage in channel and outlets.
- Immediately repair vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to earth fills and outlets.
- Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to constructed grade.
- Maintain diversion capacity, ridge height, and outlet elevations especially if high sediment yielding areas are in the drainage area above the diversion.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative cover. This includes reseeding, fertilization and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing is needed to control height.
- Each inlet for underground outlets must be kept clean and sediment buildup redistributed so that the inlet is at the lowest point. Inlets damaged by farm machinery must be replaced or repaired immediately.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OFFICE FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN.